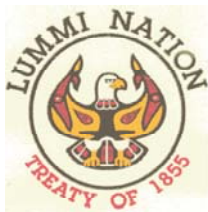


LUMMI INDIAN NATION



LUMMI SHELLFISH OPERATIONS
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SHELLFISH OPERATIONS

One of 20 Northwest Indian Tribes that were granted Federal recognition by Treaties signed in 1855, the Lummi Nation has extensive ties to the sea. Located on a peninsula surrounded by Puget Sound waters, the Tribe has more than 7000 acres of tidelands bordering their upland area including a 700 acre seapond. The Tribal shellfish operation grows oysters and manila clams on available tidelands and in the seapond that are for sale. In addition, the Tribe operates a shellfish hatchery producing seed for our own operation and for sale to other shellfish growers.



SHELLFISH HATCHERY

Built in 1971 and remodeled in 1995, the shellfish hatchery can produce more than 400 million shellfish larvae per month. These larvae are used to produce bagged and single oyster seed, manila clam seed, geoduck seed, mussel seed, basket cockle seed, and European flat oyster seed for sale to shellfish growers or for use by the shellfish project.



Spawning oysters, three males in the middle and a female on the left. A single female can produce more than 25 million eggs.

Larvae from most shellfish can be produced in the hatchery under controlled conditions any time of the year. Six full time people run the 14,000 square foot hatchery with the help of seasonal technicians during the busy summer months.



Eyed larvae can be shipped anywhere in the world in refrigerated containers to provide growers with seed at their location. The four million larvae shown here can set 125 bags of oyster seed.

Bagged seed from the hatchery is available most of the year and bags from other growers can be custom set in the hatchery. Lummi and other growers have also used French pipe and other cultch materials for setting. Other products include pediveliger larvae of manila clams and basket cockles.



Hatchery geoduck seed from 1.5-20mm in size is planted in selected locations. Seed up to 5mm+ in size is available from the hatchery in March-July. Protecting planted seed in PVC pipe covered with netting is recommended.

Geoduck seed is the hottest item from the hatchery. Aquaculture development of this animal has produced excellent results. The hatchery can also produce other species by special order. **Basket cockles** have been successfully spawned and reared. This species appears to have good aquaculture potential, as it is fast growing and easy to rear in the hatchery.

JUVENILE REARING SYSTEMS



Juvenile rearing systems produce millions of juvenile clams and oysters. Pacific and European flat oysters and manila clams have been successfully reared in large numbers in these systems. Seed is certified disease free each year and qualifies for shipment to Alaska, Washington, Oregon and California.



Single oyster seed produced in the hatchery is sold to growers from Alaska to California. Seed varies in size from .5-30mm depending on growers' requirements. Available year round, single seed is usually planted in lantern nets, or in grow-out bags, but larger seed can be planted directly on the ground. Diploid seed is available most of the year.



Some Lummi fishermen harvest manila clams from the seapond by hand and rake. More than 60 fishermen participated in the harvest, with individuals harvesting up to 350 pounds per day.

Up to 5000 pounds per day have been taken by Lummi fishermen from the seapond. Clams are sold to Indian and non-Indian fish buyers.



Lummi fishermen convert crab boats to clam dredgers and take up to 1000 pounds of manila clams per day. Power rakes and suction devices developed by the fishermen are used for this harvest.



Pacific oysters in Lummi Bay require three years to reach harvestable size. Seed survival is excellent and condition is good.



The 700 acre seapond contains an estimated 1,500,000 pounds of manila clams.



Manila clams are sorted to 1 1/2 inches plus and bagged in 25 pound bags for storage. Filtered seawater is run over the clams for purging. Overnight storage in running seawater ensures the clams are free of sand and other impurities.

MISSION STATEMENT

Lummi Shellfish Operations, using the tideland resources of the Lummi Nation, is committed to the production of oysters, manila clams, geoducks, and other native and potential aquaculture species for the benefit of tribal members.